

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8, 10-12, 17-23, and 32-36 are canceled. Claims 9 and 13-15 are amended. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-7, 9-19, and 32-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,394,445 (“d’Agrella”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,776,750 (“Stieler”).

Applicants have canceled Claims 1-7, 10-12, 17-19, and 32-36 and amended Claims 9 and 13-15 to depend from allowed Claim 24. Therefore, this rejection is moot with respect to those claims.

The Examiner rejected Claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over d’Agrella in view of Stieler, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,360,640 (“Cote”).

Applicants have canceled Claim 8, therefore, this rejection is moot with respect to Claim 8.


Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner’s indication that Claims 24-31 are allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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